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A Million Volumes, Countless Possibilities!

University's Libraries Reach One Million Print Volumes in 2002

It's no secret that despite its young life, George Mason University has amassed quite a few accomplishments. In 2002, yet another milestone was reached, this time by the libraries, which acquired their one-millionth print volume—truly an extraordinary feat given the relative youth of the university.

More importantly, the symbolic millionth "volume" was a gift of rare mathematics books and autographed photographs and letters of classical musicians from the personal library of George Mason's Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Daniele C. Struppa. "This is a truly significant gift for the university's libraries," says John G. Zenelis, University Librarian. "Gaining these rare and early imprints is even more meaningful coming from such an enthusiastic supporter of the libraries," notes Zenelis.



Euclid, 1732

All the titles but one are about mathematics, primarily geometry. Struppa, who is a professor of mathematics, collected the volumes over a twenty-year period. The donated works include, Euclid, *Elementorum Libri XV* (1627) and Clavius, *Aritmetica Practtica* (1671). The most noteworthy and earliest volume in the collection is *Satirae* (1515) by the Roman-period satirist and poet, Juvenal. Other materials include librettos from Giuseppe Verdi and a letter penned by Arrigo Boito, author of *Mefistofele*.

The diverse nature of the materials will form "a collection truly reflecting the eclectic and diverse interests of Dean Struppa," remarks Zenelis. The books and autographs will form the Daniele C. Struppa Collection of Rare Books and Manuscripts in the libraries' Special Collections & Archives department in Fenwick Library.

The Past, the Present, and the Future

The whole campus community is being brought into the Millionth Volume Celebration, which will capture the idea of libraries as the keepers of knowledge from the past and present, while always anticipating the future.

Dean Struppa's gift of rare mathematics works clearly represents the past. Digital resources from Mason's Center for History and New Media will be archived through the libraries, signifying the future of library collections. To represent the *present* and to make this a truly campus wide event, each major academic and administrative unit has been invited to contribute a contemporary volume from their field, symbolically adding the libraries' million-first to million-twenty-first volumes, representing each major unit.

Special Events Planned

To commemorate this important milestone, the libraries are planning a number of events for the entire Mason community. A web site will provide further information and photographs of books and manuscripts, see <http://library.gmu.edu/mv>.

Adriana Ercolano and Robin Herron

Full Text is Redesigned

Readers of **Full Text** will notice changes in design and focus of this issue. The libraries recognized the need to inform our outside audience about our many recent accomplishments and advances. Appropriate and obvious changes have been made from the first issue, which was called *Library Notes*.

continued next page

Message from John Zenelis

University Librarian and Associate Vice President for Information Technology

Welcome to our newly redesigned newsletter! **Full Text** has grown from somewhat humble origins to the more dynamic publication you see before you today. These changes have mirrored the remarkable progress of the George Mason libraries, in large part reflecting the growth of the university as a whole. Our staff's inspired response to increased demand for resources and services by our academic community is reflected in the libraries' considerable achievements and in our collective vision for meeting the new challenges yet to come.

The recent achievements of the university's library system include passing the one-million-volume mark in holdings, an important and symbolic milestone for any academic research library. Technological advances added to the libraries' web site include the **Ask-a-Librarian** interactive online reference service; the **E-Journal Finder**, which provides quick links to full-text journal articles online; and, debuting this fall, **LinkFinderPlus**, a mechanism for comprehensively linking library digital resources regardless of information provider.

What exciting challenges will the university's libraries face in the years ahead and how will we rise to meet them in these financially difficult times? As our student population—undergraduate, graduate and professional—continues to grow, new library spaces on all of our three campuses are in various stages of renovation and development. During the past year, a thorough evaluation of the **Liaison Librarian** program was undertaken to ensure that our professional faculty are fully prepared and supported to meet the changing information and research requirements of the university community. And, addressing both short-term needs and long-term goals, the **Information Literacy Task Group** has investigated methods for instituting a more comprehensive library instruction program that teaches information literacy principles to our students that can be used today and during a lifetime.

Amidst this atmosphere of rapid and dynamic change, the libraries will continue to strive to be true to our vision: to make a unique and indispensable contribution to the productivity of students and faculty and the intellectual life of George Mason University. I hope you will watch these pages for reports of our progress in the years ahead.

John G. Zenelis

Full Text is Redesigned

continued

First published in 1964, **Library Notes** used the amazingly advanced technology known as mimeograph, and it provided information about recent acquisitions. This information is now available through the libraries' **Mylibrary@Mason** web site. Library staff and other internal news is now provided in a new publication, **Library Link**. Both **Full Text** and **Library Link** are accessible online through the Events & News section on the libraries' homepage, <http://library.gmu.edu/>.

Editors



Library Notes

Millionth Volume Celebration

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2002-2003

OCTOBER 2002

Thursday, October 3

George Mason Authors Reception
(In conjunction with Fall for the Book)

Friday, October 4 – Sunday, October 6

Library Book Sale
(In conjunction with Fall for the Book)

NOVEMBER 2002

Friday, November 1

Submission Deadline for Student Essay Contest

Thursday, November 21

Fall Fenwick Fellow Lecture – Peter Mandaville, Public and International Affairs

DECEMBER 2002

Wednesday, December 4

Reception for Student Essay Contest

APRIL 2003

Wednesday, April 2

Millionth Volume Celebration Day
Presentation, Exhibition of the Millionth Volume, and Lecture by Dean Struppa

DATES TO FOLLOW:

- Lecture at the Law School, Arlington Campus
- Prince William Campus Event
- Reception Honoring Former Fenwick Fellows
- Spring Fenwick Fellow Lecture – Rose Cherubin, Religious Studies

For more information, please call:
Adriana Ercolano at (703) 993-3389
or Kelly Jordan at (703) 993-3712.

What's Up?

The George Mason University Libraries are celebrating their One Millionth Volume in 2002-2003 — a notable and noteworthy milestone. Just ten years ago reaching this number so quickly seemed only wishful thinking. What happened?

- One answer is increased acquisitions: In 1991-1992 the library (not yet today's multi-campus libraries) acquired 14,621 new books. In 2001-2002 the libraries acquired 30,670 new books — more than twice as many.
- An even more dramatic increase is in library usage. In April 1998, 104,000 students and faculty accessed the libraries' databases from off campus. In April 2002, that number jumped to nearly 1.9 million — eighteen times what it was just four years ago!
- Special Collections & Archives, which creates and maintains web sites, had a 300 percent increase in web site hits in the last three years.

With more databases and ever-increasing sophistication among researchers, the numbers will go up even more — millions more!

Editors

e-Books Jump Start Available Titles



Well, we made it! It only took 45 years to obtain a million volumes. How long before the Libraries reach two million? That's a tough question, for not only are publishers

increasing the number of traditional print titles, they're now publishing e-books (electronic books), which are delivered via computer.

Though it's not easy to lug a computer onto the beach for easy reading, we should know that e-books have some distinct advantages. They can be either browsed or checked out just like books on the shelves; they have quick search capabilities; they have guaranteed availability; and they're reliable, scholarly texts.

The search capability allows the reader to search in myriad ways: By title, author, subject, publisher, year, and text within the book. Searching by text is particularly useful for scholars and students looking for esoteric or specific information, which may be included in a book that focuses on a completely different topic. It's also possible to browse the tables of contents and indexes. Since the books have a two-hour checkout limit they are quickly available for other readers.

The libraries now have nearly 30,000 unique e-book titles in the permanent collection. Soon, these titles will be a part of the online catalog, making them easy to locate. Some of the world's best publishers have supplied e-books, including McGraw Hill, Blackwell's, and Oxford University Press. Among the most popular titles are e-books on technology and business, but the range of subjects is comprehensive, from Asian studies to zoology.

To see more follow this path:

- go to <http://library.gmu.edu>
- click on "ebooks", then "ebooks" again
- click on "netlibrary"
- from there you can set up your personal username and password

For more from the e-book publisher, see: <http://www.safaribooksonline.com>.

Elizabeth Farley

Periodicals Wing Renovated

The Periodicals/Microforms collection and services area of Fenwick Library closed during the summer of 2002 to undergo long-needed renovation. The project included a wide variety of improvements, such as

- Replacing flooring and lighting
- Repositioning and adding library shelving
- Installing more computers for better access

During the summer months, 3,300 shelves of materials were transferred to climate-controlled storage; old flooring was demolished, removed and replaced; and numerous electrical improvements were completed, including the installation of additional electrical capacity and a low-voltage lighting system.

The project required temporary changes in library services. Bound periodicals published between 1983 and 2000 and most microform materials were temporarily inaccessible; current periodicals were relocated to the Government Documents area; and the ERIC Documents microfiche collection was relocated to the Fenwick Library Reference Room. In August, all materials were returned to the newly renovated area.

This renovation benefits readers and researchers in many ways:

- Additional public-access computers will be added during the fall semester
- New furniture will make research more comfortable for students and faculty
- Addition of an ADA compliant service desk
- Journals are arranged in a more logical, self-evident manner
- New lighting assists visibility
- Study areas now accommodate both individuals and groups

The renovation will pay immediate dividends to the libraries' users with enhanced visibility, accessibility, and connectivity.

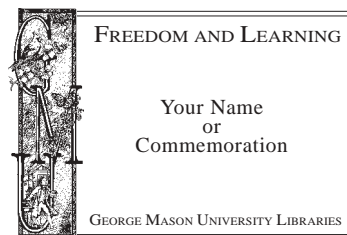
William Fleming



Periodicals/Microforms

Send a Book to College

The George Mason University Libraries bookplate is an exceptional way to have a personal, lasting effect on the libraries' collection. Bookplates may be purchased for \$50 and will be placed on the inside cover of a new library book. You may also choose to purchase a bookplate in honor or memory of a loved one.



Your \$50 gift will help build the libraries' print collections in all disciplines.

Simply complete the form below and return it with a check made payable to George Mason University Foundation. Send it to:

**Director of Development
University Libraries
George Mason University
4400 University Drive, MS 2FL
Fairfax, VA 22030**

Bookplate in Your Name : _____

or you may choose a bookplate in honor of in memory of

Name: _____

Your Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

For more information, please call (703) 993-3389.

Full Text Profile

John N. Warfield

Educated in mathematics and electrical engineering, John Warfield concentrated his early years on teaching, later focusing his energy on research. During his career, he worked at eight universities and in three industries. Prior to his retirement from George Mason University, he held the title of University Professor and served as the Director of the Institute for Advanced Study in the Integrative Sciences (IASIS).



One of Warfield's research areas was "complexity theory" on which he wrote two books: *Societal Systems: Planning, Policy, and Complexity*; and *A Science of Generic Design: Managing Complexity Through Systems Design* (Systems Inquiry Series).

Warfield discovered that the ability to understand complexity depended on a theory of "thinking about thinking" merged with empirical evidence of human behavior and the application of design concepts to groups. In his research he emphasized adhering to established criteria for scientific work, and drew inspiration from numerous well-known scholars. Warfield applied the results of his research to all levels of education, with special attention paid to the complexities of higher education.

Despite his retirement, Warfield continues to be active. During a recent August visit to China, he was a featured speaker at the International Society for Systems Science's annual meeting in Shanghai. He also lectured in Xuzhou on the topic of complexity.

The John N. Warfield Collection is part of the libraries' Special Collections & Archives at George Mason. Warfield was a distinguished professor of public policy at George Mason and the collection contains materials which record his long and prolific career, including research papers, presentations, video and audiotapes, and correspondence.

The collection contains 63 cubic feet or 93.5 linear feet of material and the research guide for it can be viewed online at: <http://www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections/warfield.htm>.

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Full Text

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